

MONTHLY MEETING
Friday January 15, 2016
7:30pm

Our Saviors Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane Lafayette
License Testing 6pm
DX Interest Group 6:30pm

Amazon dot Com 'Smile'	2
Officers and Appointees	2
QCWA Member Alert	2
President's QTC	3
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December Board Minutes	12
National Parks on the Air	16
K6TSA and W6CX	17
License Classes	18
Ham Radio Outlet	20
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Club Calendar	21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 18, 2016



NOTE - THIS MONTH'S MEETING WILL BE HELD UPSTAIRS IN THE SANCTUARY AREA

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Radio communication at interstellar distances



David Messerschmitt, KK6KFQ
Professor Emeritus, UC Berkeley

Based on recent progress in locating exoplanets outside our solar system, it is estimated that about 20% of those stars similar to our sun harbor planets in the habitable zone, meaning they could conceivably harbor Earth-like life. That adds up to an estimated 20 billion such planets in the Milky Way galaxy, and it is possible that a small fraction of those (but still an impressive number) harbor intelligent civilizations possessing advanced radio technology. It is appropriate to begin pondering how we might communicate information by radio with any extraterrestrial civilizations that might exist out there, and also with spacecraft (called starships) that we might launch toward nearby stars. In this talk we discuss the major technical obstacles to such radio communication, such as great distances, the cosmic microwave background, an ionized interstellar medium, and (for starships) relativistic speeds. We will also predict the character of digital modes appropriate for interstellar communication. Come and pay attention, because this topic may may appear in future ham licensing exams!

73, Vice President Will Dickson, WB6YGJ

When you purchase at Amazon dot com smile, a portion of your purchase is donated to our club.

Go to:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059>



**ATTENTION QCWA MEMBERS !
DANIEL CURRY, K6DLC WILL BE
CONTACTING YOU VIA E-MAIL
REGARDING THE REACTIVATION OF
THE BAY AREA QCWA CHAPTER 11.**

**NATIONAL STALKING
AWARENESS MONTH
JANUARY 2016
StalkingAwarenessMonth.org**

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN
THE CLUB YAHOO GROUP.
DOWNLOAD FILES, INCLUDING *THE
CARRIER* IN **FULL COLOR** AS WELL AS
SHARE INFORMATION WITH THE
MEMBERSHIP AT:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mdarc>

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX
P.O. Box 23222 Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
(925) 288-1730

The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and provided space is available.

President - Mike Patterson, N6JGA
Vice President - Will Dickson, WB6YGI
Secretary - Dick Fletcher, AF9RF
Treasurer - Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO

Technical Committee Chair
Jim Siemons, AF6PU

Directors At Large
Trevor Hall, WA6JAU Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD
Janice Fujii, KG6VTD Francis O'Leary, KF6FRJ

Emergency Coordinator - Ron Bunch, W4FEK

PACIFICON 2016
Chair: (Vacant)
Registration: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE
Treasurer: Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Secretary: Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Web Page: Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Membership Chair - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP
mdarcmembership@mdarc.org

Website - David Schild, KK6CQX
Repeater Trustee - Jay Caldis, KT6Y
Education & Training Chair - John Primus, AF6RJ
License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB
Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW
Outreach Coordinator - Jim Siemons, AF6PU
Field Day Chair—Vacant
Refreshments: Elizabeth Styles KG6HLV
Holiday Party - Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Trailer - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX

The Carrier Newsletter
Editor, Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA
n4dla_cs245@yahoo.com
Proofreader - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB

Digital Media - David Molstad WB0HNY
Amateur Television Help and Information:
John Schuler, W6DTV JOHNQRZ@aol.com



PRESIDENT'S QTC

2015 - A Year of Challenge and Opportunity

This month's President's Message will be a little different. It's a sort of "annual report" to you, the MDARC Family, to review what the Club has done over the year 2015; our accomplishments, the issues and difficulties we dealt with and other items of significance that should be mentioned. Since we have numerous committees and many things to mention, there isn't room for long paragraphs. So I'm just giving bullet items for each

topic. I apologize for its length; but there is much to report. If you have questions about any item, please contact the appropriate Officer or Committee chair. Or send your question to me and I'll forward it to the appropriate person.

My job as President has been made so much easier due to the efforts of many, many people. I especially want to thank those of you that are retiring from your positions after years of dedication.

- * David Molstad, WB0HNY – Secretary
- * Bill Swindell, K1LED - Treasurer
- * Trevor Hall, WA6JAU – Pacificon Chair
- Chuck Graham, KI6DCD – Auxiliary Training Coordinator; Training Hospitality/Logistics Support

Organization:

Retiring Board members. Thank you for your service to MDARC.

- * David Molstad, WB0HNY – Secretary.
- * Bill Swindell, K1LED – Treasurer.

Elected new Board members. Welcome.

- * Dick Fletcher, AF9RF – Secretary.
- * Cathi Walton, KJ6YNO – Treasurer.

Incumbents reelected or not up for election this year.

- * Mike Patterson, N6JGA – President (reelected).
- * Will Dickson, WB6YGJ – Vice-President (reelected).
- * Ron Bunch, W4FEK - Emergency Coordinator (reelected).
- * Mitch Boyce, W8DOD - Director (reelected).
- * Trevor Hall, WA6JAU - Director (reelected).
- * Janice Fujii, KG6VTD - Director (incumbent).
- * Frank O'Leary, KF6FRJ - Director (incumbent).

Established Outreach Coordinator position – Jim Siemons, AF6PU.

Established Trailer Committee – Pat Miller, KK6DBX.

Revised the bylaws.

Set guidelines for selling equipment at Club meetings.

Developed plan for better organization & storage of Club documents.

Renewed ARRL Special Service Club status.

Vice-President – Will Dickson, WB6YGJ:

- * Top notch speakers at the meetings.
- * Began DX special interest group before the meeting (see below).
- Pre-meeting portable radio testing for FCC compliance in November.
- Attendance spread from 54 to over 100. Estimated average = 64.

Finances / Treasurer – Bill Swindell, K1LED:

Balance & change over the year.

- Balance, Jan. 1, 2015: \$64,498.34.
- Balance, Dec. 31, 2015: \$64,173.60.

Note: These totals include emergency reserves; so much is not available as working funds.

Established new member discounted membership fee of \$30.

- * New liability insurance policy.
- * Established Amazon Smile for donations. Amount received in 2015 = \$21.34. (Keep it coming!)
- * Other donations = \$289.74; Totaling \$311.08.
- * Audit completed with no significant trouble spots.
- Developed donation acknowledgement letter to send to donors.

Emergency Coordination - Ron Bunch, W4FEK:

- * Researched development of an MDARC MOU template.
- * Working with the Hospital Net & SATERN to determine if MOUs are needed.
- * 3 ea. Emergency Communications (EmComm) classes taught (see Education & Training, below.)

Auction – Bill Swindell, K1LED:

- * Over 100 items sold.
- * Over \$600 earned for the Club.

Digital Media Committee – David Molstad, WB0HNY & Mike Patterson, N6JGA:

- * Remodeled & expanded the MDARC web site.
- * Created & administered Pacifcon 2015 web site.
- * Created Club Facebook & Twitter accounts.
- * Special thank you to David Schild, KK6CQX, for his expertise and work on these capabilities.

DX Special Interest Group - Dave Piersall, N6ORB:

- * Begun this year, meeting before each general meeting.
- * Topics included "Getting the DX Station's QSL Card", "Using a DX Cluster Website", and "How to Operate Split-Frequency."
- * Typically 6 to 10 hams at each discussion.

Education & Training - John Primus, AF6RJ:

- * Continued our long & happy relationship with the Salvation Army.
- * Informal agreement with Benicia ARC to promote each others' training.
- * Welcomed new Leadership team.
- * Technician Class course:
 - 33 students registered.
 - 21 tested.
 - 16 passed; new licensees. (Plus 1 ea. General upgrade during this test session.)
- * General Class course:
 - 29 students registered.
 - 9 tested.
 - 7 passed; Upgrades.
- * 6 ea. Auxiliary classes.
- * 3 ea. Emergency Communications (EmComm) classes.
- Total 182 students, including Auxiliary & Emergency Communications classes.

Field Day - Lauren Styles, WA6CIE:

- * Short on help.
- * Manned only 2 stations.
- * 117 Contacts.
- * 55 participants/visitors.
- * 2 Official visits from ARRL Pacific Division leaders.
- * Charles Henry, KG6PHZ, brought his solar power trailer (1.9 kW) & ran the site with it.

Holiday Banquet - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE:

- * Attendees Registered = 66.
- * Annual awards given (see below).

License Testing - Larry Loomer, KI6LNB:

(includes at MDARC meetings and other locations administered by MDARC VEs)

- * 245 tests administered.
- * 146 new hams.
- * 8 upgrades.
- * Pass rate = 79%.
- * Breakdown:
 - Technician: 169 Administered; 146 Passed
 - General: 52 Administered; 32 Passed
 - Amateur Extra: 24 Administered; 16 Passed
- 23 VE participants.

Membership - Tom Deeble, KA6SIP:

- * Total members = 358
- * About the same number of members as January 1.
- * Directory improved & published.
- * Maintained renewal membership fee unchanged for the last several years.
- * Dues structure simplified and clarified.
- * Established new member discounted fee of \$30.
- * Revised, updated the member applications form.

Newsletter - Matthew G. Vurek, N4DLA:

- * 11 electronic issues published to archive our club activities and events with news and photographs.

Outreach Coordinator - Jim Siemens, AF6PU:

- * Worked to make the Club more open and inviting to new and returning members & guests.
- * Developed new Club QSL and business cards.
- * New phone system to better receive & respond to calls.
- * Phone calls to Club number increasing. Digital amateur television (DATV) and D-STAR of special interest.
- * Began work to purchase new club banner.
- * Donations by the Club & Members – Giving Back:
 - * Club donations: \$500 each to ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund; Calif. Historical Radio Museum; AMSAT.
 - Members donated 41 frozen turkeys to the Salvation Army during their Thanksgiving/Christmas drive in November.
 - Almost 5% of the total need for the season by the S.A. Concord Corps. A possible record for Ham generosity.

PACIFICON - Trevor Hall, WA6JAU:

- * 1,700 paid attendees
- * 31 Vendors
- * 11 Non-Profit Exhibitors
- * 32 Forums, mostly packed
- * Special guests: Gordon West, WB6NOA, & Bob Heil, K9EID
- * Other Events:
 - * Antenna Seminar.
 - * ARRL Pacificon Division Forum.
 - * Banquet.
 - * Breakfast with Gordo.
 - * Door Prizes.
 - * Ham Instructor Academy.
 - * Ham Radio 101 and 202 (hosted by the Bay-Net Group).
 - * Parachute Mobile.
 - * ARRL portable radio testing for FCC compliance.
 - * QRP meetings.
 - * QSL Card checking.
 - * Swap Meet.
 - * Wouff Hong initiation.
 - * Youngest Ham contest.

- * Youth Leader Program from the Radio Club of America (RCA).
- * Scouting Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) sessions & events.
- * New location: San Ramon Marriott
 - * Many rooms too small
 - * Parking issues on Saturday
- * Special Event Station:
 - * Provided by the Palo Alto Amateur Radio Association (PAARA)
 - * Five stations set up: four HF and one VHF; all on one antenna and at full power.
 - * 48-1/2 hours total operating time
 - * 2,761 contacts in 102 entities
 - * 25 Boy Scouts operated
- * One-Day Class:
 - * 27 students
 - * 22 students tested for their Technician Class license. 18 passed.
- * License Testing (also included in main License Testing category above):
 - * 77 tests administered
 - * 33 new hams
 - * 19 upgrades
 - * Breakdown:
 - Technician: 43 Administered; 33 Passed
 - General: 20 Administered; 11 Passed
 - Amateur Extra: 14 Administered; 8 Passed
 - * 12 VE participations

Public Service - Pete Harris, KE6ZIW:

- * 11 events (walkathons, marathons, bicycle races, horse trail rides, Alcatraz swims, municipal parades)
- * 52 hams participated.

Technical Committee - Trevor Hall, WA6JAU / Jim Siemens, AF6PU:

- * South Peak:
 - * New site manager.
 - * New contract, terms & rental rate. Details & final terms being finalized.
 - * New repeater configuration & coverage patterns.
 - * Experimenting with combining South Peak systems on just two antennas. Testing performance.
 - * D-Star failure fixed; FAA interference resolved; 2 meter interference resolved.
 - * Club license renewed.
- * North Peak:
 - * Major Amateur Televisions (ATV) Upgrade:
 - * New digital downlink system, adding coverage, clarity and three more channels.
 - * Analog downlink system discontinued.
 - * Major equipment donation from Joel Wilhite, KD6W.
 - * Worked with CARLA system to prevent interference to/from the new system they installed.

Trailer Committee - Patrick Miller, KK6DBX:

- * Updated the registration documents.
- * Began planning for repairs and remodeling.

Holiday Banquet - Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE:

- * Attendees Registered = 66.
- * Annual awards given (see below).

Awards:

- * National ARRL honors for two members:
 - * Jim Brunk, N6BHX, 5th in the Pacific Division on the Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll.
 - * Larry Loomer, KI6LNB, 1st in nation on the Public Service Honor Roll.
- * MDARC Ham of the Year, 2015: John Primus, AF6RJ.
- * MDARC Kilroy Key, 2015: Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE.

Silent Keys:

Glen Zumwalt, KJ6EN, husband of Vicki Zumwalt, N6KLS; past MDARC President.
Mak King, WA6EKT; MDARC Club member.
Patty McIntyre; wife of Mac McIntyre, KE6ZZG; MDARC Club member.
Joe Deas, K6VLH; MDARC Club member.
Gary Grant, K7VY; Nevada Section Manager.
Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF; Amateur Radio Newsline Co-Founder, Editor.
Brad Wyatt, K6WR; ARRL Past Pacific Division Director.
Trevor Waldron, G4YGT (Yellow Green Taxi); England; frequent repeater user via Echolink.

Natural & Human Events – Be Forewarned:

May 3, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 3.6 - Concord, CA
Jul 12, 2015: Missing adult at risk search – Walnut Creek (Hams called out to assist)
Jul 21, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 4.1 – Fremont
Aug 9, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 3.3 – Marin County
Aug 17, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 4.2 – Piedmont, CA
Sep 14, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 6.6 – San Andreas Fault, Gulf of Calif., Mexico
Sept. 14, 2015: Flash Flood; Killed 8 - Hildale, Utah, and Colorado City, Arizona
Oct 14-Nov 4, 2015: Earthquake Swarm; Magnitudes 1.9-3.5 – San Ramon, CA
(approx. 1.7 mi. from Pacificon site)
Dec 19, 2015: Earthquake; Magnitude 3.1 – San Ramon, CA
(approx. 0.8 mi. from Pacificon site)
Numerous warnings in the media about the fragility of the levees in the Delta.

Remember to shop on Amazon Smile at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7072059> to donate to MDARC; and please consider volunteering for the Club. No experience necessary. Our Club and all the activities we do, like those above, can't exist unless you volunteer.

73 until next time,

Mike Patterson, N6JGA
President



LAW ENFORCEMENT APPRECIATION DAY



Presided over by Board President Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Recorded by David Molstad WB0HNY Board Secretary

The meeting was held at the Black Bear Diner 700 Bancroft Rd Walnut Creek California Call or order 1900 Hours

I. Roll Call (of all attendees) names darkened not in attendance

Club Officers

Title	Name/Call	Email
President	Mike Patterson, N6JGA	president@mdarc.org
Vice President	Will Dickson, WB6YGJ	mailto:Vicepresident@mdarc.org
Secretary	David Molstad, WB0HNY	secretary@mdarc.org
Treasurer	Bill Swindell, K1LED	mailto:K1LED@arrl.net
Emergency Communications Director	Ron Bunch, W4FEK	mailto:ron.races@arrl.net
Director at Large	Janice Fujii, KG6VTD	
Director at Large	Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD	
Director at Large	Trevor Hall, WA6JAU	
Director at Large	Francis O'Leary, KG6FRJ	

Committee Chairs and Positions

	Name/Call	Email
Auction	Bill Swindell, K1LED	k1led@arrl.net
Communications Trailer	Patrick Miller, KK6DBX	pm01386@gmail.com
Digital Media	Open	
Directory Coordinator	Jim Brunk, N6BHX	n6bh@arrl.net
Education and Training	John Primus, AF6RJ	af6rj@arrl.net

Education and Training	John Primus, AF6RJ	af6rj@arrl.net
Field Day	Lauren Styles, WA6CIE	wa6cie@arrl.net
Good & Welfare Coordinator	Chuck Graham, KI6DCD	graham.chuck@gmail.com
Holiday Banquet /Coordinator	Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE	misa@siemons.com
License Testing	Larry Loomer, KI6LNB	larryloomer@yahoo.com
Membership Coordinator	Tom Deeble, KA6SIP	KA6SIP@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Matthew Vurek, N4DLA	N4dia_cs245@yahoo.com
Outreach Coordinator	Jim Siemons, AF6PU	Siemons@me.com
PACIFICON	Trevor Hall WA6JAU	wa6jau@sbcglobal.net
Public Service Coordinator	Pete Harris, KE6ZIW	pharris@comcast.net
Refreshment Coordinator	Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV	
Scholarship	Ron Luttringer, K6XC	
Technical	Jim Siemons, AF6PU	Siemons@me.com
Youth Education	Open	

II. Approval of Minutes from last meeting David Molstad WB0HNY Approved with edits

III. Officers Reports

- a) President Mike Patterson N6JGA
ARRL Service Club Certificate and banner
should be here in time for PACIFICON
Jim Siemons, AF6PU suggested radio testing
for all HT radios to insure compliance with FCC
Testing to begin at next club meeting
Prepared proposed list of meeting dates for 2016
All meetings on first Monday of each month
Except for July and September, second Monday
Room has been reserved at Black Bear Diner
- b) Vice President Will Dickson, WB6YGJ
Guest speaker for November will be from CERT
Beginning work on speakers for 2016
- c) Secretary David Molstad WB0HNY
No Report

d) Treasurer **Bill Swindell, K1LED**
MDARC balance, \$58,853.56
PACIFICON balance, \$59,556.35
Total account balances \$118,409.91

IV. Committee, Coordinator Reports

a) Auction **Bill Swindell, K1LED**
No Report

b) Communications Trailer **Patrick Miller, KK6DBX**
No Report

c) Digital Media **Open**
Mike
Meeting November 17, 2015, looking for venue
Open to all
Restart Committee
Resolve website issues

d) Education and Training **John Primus AF6RJ**
No Amateur Radio Classes scheduled for the remainder
of 2015
Annual MDARC/Saturn Instructional Team Meeting
scheduled for November 5, 2015
Salvation Army Fireside Room
37 Team members and prospective team members invited
2016 Team Leaders
Team Treasurer, **Bill Swindell, K1LED**
Core Team Leader, **Larry Bradley, KK6QPE**
Team Public Information Officer,
 Peg Gardiner, KJ6MXT
Auxiliary Training Team Course
Hospitality Support is Vacant
Auxiliary Training Team Leader is Vacant
Emergency Preparedness Team Hospitality
Support position is Vacant
There may be other Team positions available

e) Emergency Communications **Ron Bunch W4FEK**
Many Emergency Communications Forums
At PACIFICON this year
May be even more next year.

f) Field Day **Lauren Styles WA6CIE**
No Report

g) Good and Welfare **Chuck Graham KI6DCD**
Mike for Chuck
Larry Loomer had surgery and is recovering
Chuck sent card

h) Holiday Banquet **Misa Siemons KJ6BUE**
Mike for Misa
December 6th, Sunday 1800
Zio Fraedo's, Pleasant Hill

h) License Testing Larry Loomer KI6LNB
 No Report

i) Membership Tom Deeble KA6SIP

 Mike for Tom Review Membership dues and Membership form Bill Swindell K1LED proposes motion
 Dues Structure Full Membership \$45 per year (includes immediate family) Students \$15 New members \$30
 first year only Dues paid after October 1 are good through the end of the following year. Motion Seconded
 by Will Dickson, WB6YGJ Motion approved 6 in favor 1 abstain Bill Swindell K1LED proposes motion
 There will be an option available to request News Letters and Membership Directories Be mailed for a
 \$25 annual fee per year. Motion Second Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD Motion approved 6 in favor 1 abstain
 No change to data on registered on Membership Form Tom to revise Membership Form
 Mike to mail letter to members who request paper form of club news

j) Outreach Jim Siemons AF6PU

 Four calls received
 Non profit radio station looking
 For volunteers

k) PACIFICON Trevor Hall WA6JAU

 Mike for Trevor
 Meeting November 10 to review PACIFICON
 Received many congratulator emails
 Comments regard size of meeting rooms
 Trevor retiring and Chair, looking for new Chair
 PACIFICON earned about \$10K

l) Public Service Pete Harris KE6ZIW

 No Report

m) Scholarships Ron Luttringer, K6XC

 No Report

n) Technical Jim Siemons AF6PU

 All systems working well
 Board Directed DATV to have presence
 at PACIFICON, DATV complied, looked great
 Future experiments will be conducted on
 Towers to reduce tower space

o) Youth Education Open

p) Ad Hoc Reports

 Nomination Committee, Janice Fujii
 Mike for Janice
 No changes in nominees
 Ballots being prepared
 Ballots to be sent via email
 Paper ballots available at club meeting

V) Old or unfinished business

 Online membership form to be discussed at
 Digital Media Committee meeting
 Financial Stability discussion tabled until after
 PACIFICON's accounting numbers are received

VI) New Business

 None

VII) Meeting adjourned.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Date December 7, 2015 Time 1900 Hours

Presided over by Board President Mike Patterson, N6JGA

Recorded by David Molstad WB0HNY Board Secretary

The meeting was held at the Black Bear Diner 700 Bancroft Rd Walnut Creek California Call or order 1900 Hours

I. Roll Call (of all attendees) names darkened not in attendance

Club Officers

Title	Name/Call	Email
President	Mike Patterson, N6JGA	president@mdarc.org
Vice President	Will Dickson, WB6YGJ	Vicepresident@mdarc.org
Secretary	David Molstad, WB0HNY	secretary@mdarc.org
Treasurer	Bill Swindell, K1LED	mailto:K1LED@arrl.net
Emergency Communications Director	Ron Bunch, W4FEK	mailto:ron.races@arrl.net
Director at Large	Janice Fujii, KG6VTD	
Director at Large	Mitchell Boyce, W8DOD	
Director at Large	Trevor Hall, WA6JAU	
Director at Large	Francis O'Leary, KG6FRJ	

Committee Chairs and Positions

	Name/Call	Email
Auction	Bill Swindell, K1LED	k1led@arrl.net
Communications Trailer	Patrick Miller, KK6DBX	pm01386@gmail.com
Digital Media	Open	
Directory Coordinator	Jim Brunk, N6BHX	n6bb@arrl.net
Education and Training	John Primus, AF6RJ	af6rj@arrl.net
Field Day	Lauren Styles, WA6CIE	wa6cie@arrl.net
Good & Welfare Coordinator	Chuck Graham, K16DCD	graham.chuck@gmail.com
Holiday Banquet /Coordinator	Misa Siemons, KJ6BUE	misa@siemons.com
License Testing	Larry Loomer, K16LNB	Larryloomer@yahoo.com

License Testing	Larry Loomer, KI6LNB	llarryloomer@yahoo.com
Membership Coordinator	Tom Deeble, KA6SIP	KA6SIP@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Mathew Vurek, N4DLA	N4dla_cs245@yahoo.com
Outreach Coordinator	Jim Siemons, AF6PU	Siemons@me.com
PACIFICON	Trevor Hall WA6JAU	wa6jau@shrcglobal.net
Public Service Coordinator	Pete Harris, KE6ZIW	pharris@comcast.net
Refreshment Coordinator	Elizabeth Styles, KG6HLV	
Scholarship	Ron Luttringer, K6XC	
Technical	Jim Siemons, AF6PU	Siemons@me.com

Youth Education Open
Member Catherine Walton KJ6YNO

Introductions of attendees

II. Approval of Minutes from last meeting David Molstad WB0HNY
Approved with edits

III. Officers Reports

- a) President Mike Patterson N6JGA
Great dinner last night
Dates set for Board meetings for 2016
- b) Vice President Will Dickson, WB6YGJ
No guest speakers scheduled yet Beginning to look now
Mike offered suggestions
Auction in April
- c) Secretary David Molstad WB0HNY No Report
- d) Treasurer Bill Swindell, K1LED
MDARC balance, \$60,038.05
PACIFICON balance, \$53,383.73
Total account balances \$113,421.78
PACIFICON balance does not reflect

All of the expenses including the hotel which is around \$20k. The club maintained a \$60K balance or above each month in 2015

Amazon Smiles posted a donation \$21.34

Resolution by Bill Swindell, K1LED The Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club voted Catherine Walton KJ6YNO as the Club Treasurer for 2016. She is now the Primary account holder for the Club checking and money market accounts. Janice Fujii Seconded Discussion

Vote 7 Board Members approved 1 abstention

IV. Committee, Coordinator Reports

a) Auction Bill Swindell, K1LED
Auction in April

b) Communications Trailer Patrick Miller, KK6DBX
Last meeting postponed New meeting date to be scheduled

c) Digital Media Open
Mike Looking to upgrade website

d) Education and Training John Primus AF6RJ
2016 Instructional Team Leaders
Team Treasurer, Bill Swindell K1LED
Core Team Leader, Larry Bradley, KK6QPE
Auxiliary Training Team Leader, Ron Bunch, W4FEK
Technician Training Course begins 1/14/2016
General Tainting Course begins 3/31/2016
Extra Training Course begins 8/4/16
Auxiliary classes will be scheduled at a later date

e) Emergency Communications Ron Bunch W4FEK
Conducting Classes regarding Organizational Structure
Saturn and the basics of SKYWARN
Regarding MOU's, time consuming
Need to find Manager of the Hospital Net
Establish protocols for repeater usage in an emergency
Saturn has first priority, Hospital Net is second
MOU should be posted on the web site

f) Field Day Lauren Styles WA6CIE
Mike for Lauren
Lauren will not be able to manage this year
Walnut Creek CERT will have joint open house
on Field Day with MDARC
Community Center Room reserved for CERT
We will want to Demo HF, Echolink, fldigi, etc
provide Elmer's and other things
Usual location may be covered with Solar Panels
Need new Chair.

g) Good and Welfare Chuck Graham KI6DCD
No report

h) Holiday Banquet Misa Siemons KJ6BUE
Mike for Misa Date set for next year, December 2, 2016
\$200 budget allocation for decorations is again requested for next year

h) License Testing Larry Loomer KI6LNB No Report

i) Membership Tom Deeble KA6SIP Mike for Tom
137 members have renewed Beginning to mail letters next week To those who have not yet renewed Janice asked to be compensated for the costs of ingredients for pie by not having to pay dues this year. Motion by Mitchell Boyce W8DOD The club will wave dues for Janice Fujii in lieu of her monthly contribution of a pie for raffle at the club meeting. Seconded by Will Dickson, WB6YGJ
7 Board Members approved 1 abstention

j) Outreach Jim Siemons AF6PU
Mike for Jim
The club needs to replace the Club Banner Motion, Mitchell Boyce W8DOD Purchase new Banner Second Janice Fujii KG6VTD Discussion Janice amended motion Design and find costs Before Making a motion to purchase Will Dickson seconded
7 Board Members approved 1 abstention
Mitchell to look into coffee cups and gifts available for purchase and propose for budget.

k) PACIFICON Trevor Hall WA6JAU
Mike for Trevor
Misa new Chairperson
No meeting this month
Requesting special call sign
Requested and received approval from ARRL
Scheduled for third week of October

l) Public Service Pete Harris KE6ZIW
No Report

m) Scholarships Ron Luttringer, K6XC
No Report

n) Technical Jim Siemons AF6PU
Mike for Jim
Discussions with ComSite West continue

o) Youth Education Open

V) Old or unfinished business
Clubs long standing financial stability was tabled
For a while, stay on hold until results from
PACIFICON can be finalized
Thinking about putting out an informational survey
on Yahoo Groups.
Location for Club Official Documents, where is all that stuff?
Stored in peoples homes?
Need centralized location
Consider a project each month that will
improve the club
Bylaws: Dues changes need to be approved by the Club
Proposal to Club and January meeting

VI) New Business None

VII) Meeting adjourned.

ARRL NATIONAL PARKS ON THE AIR



KS6M

KK6Q

KE6ZIW

**Story and
Photos by
Pete Harris
KE6ZIW**



On Saturday January 2, 2016, ARRL East Bay Section Manager John Rabold KS6M, Eoin O'Donoghue KK6Q, and I participated in the new ARRL activity called "National Parks on the Air" (NPOTA), by activating the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez. It was a blast! We got great radio response during our 4 hours on air - receiving over 100 contacts from all over the United States by hams who were eager to log a contact with the program. It was one continuing 4 hour pile-up of hams trying to make contact - a cacophony of call signs. This was especially exciting for us because we were at the site of the person who is known as "the father of the National Park Service" - John Muir. We also got to talk to many members of the public at the John Muir site and introduce them to ham radio.

You can see a few pictures taken by the 3 of us during our fantastic experience with NPOTA at the link below. To see a description of NPOTA and our activities on Saturday click on "Show More" at the top-center under the album name.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/11636522@N06/sets/72157662521742699>

Click on little screen-arrow icon in upper right. Use keyboard arrows to navigate. Use spacebar to stop or re-start slideshow function.

Thank You to MDARC from The Salvation Army



On behalf of The Salvation Army in Concord I would like thank MDARC for its volunteer help with the following:

1. John Lytle KD6ZMP for helping with cleaning up leaves and branches in the Canteen area. John and I worked for a few hours to accomplish this in time for the Nov 22 celebration of the founding of The Salvation Army 150 years ago.
2. On Dec 12 several members of MDARC and SATERN volunteered to ring the Kettle Bell at Walmart in Martinez to help raise money for Salvation Army Programs including food pantry, alcohol and drug rehabilitation, other counseling. Volunteers were Pat Miller, KK6DBX, Nancy Miller KK6FAV, Ruth Miller KE6VOO, Pete Harris KE6ZIW, Donna Harris SWL, Randy Schaffer KG6QET, Francis O'Leary KF6FRJ, and Lauren Styles WA6CIE
3. At the MDARC Christmas Party I was presented with a nice plaque from MDARC to The Salvation Army for all they do for us during the year (provide us with classrooms for license and other classes, Pacificon meetings, trailer storage. I have presented this to Major's Glen and Linda Madsen who were thrilled to receive it.

Best Wishes for a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous 2016!

Lauren Styles, WA6CIE

The Salvation Army SATERN Coordinator for Concord CA and Del Oro Division (Northern Calif and Nevada)



KE6ZIW rings the bell at the Wal-Mart in Martinez on December 12, 2015.

(Photo by WA6CIE)

Ham Radio Licensing Course Forming Now!

Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

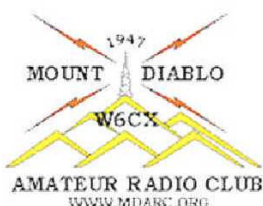
Along with SATERN will be holding a 7 week course where
you can learn everything you need to earn your

Technician Class

(entry level) FCC Amateur Radio License.

Getting On The Air 2 week course follows

The Technician Class license is your entry to the world-
wide excitement of Amateur Radio and Emergency
Communications... and now you
do **NOT** need to learn Morse code!



Course begins on...
Thursday January 14, 2016
7-9 pm

First Class starts at 6:30



The Salvation Army Corps Fireside Room,
3950 Clayton Road, (Cross of West St.)
Concord 94521

Email Registration is required.

Class is FREE – The ARRL textbook is about \$27. *Each student
must have full access to a copy of the text.*

Follow up training and License testing will also be available.

To sign up email: HamRadioClass@gmail.com

ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO



Saturday, Feb 6th 2016 - Benicia, CA



AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE CLASS

Study Session followed by Exam

When: Saturday, Feb 6th, 2016

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**Where: Benicia Senior Center
187 East L Street, Benicia**

**What: Technician Class (beginner's level)
General Class Upgrade (for those already licensed as a Tech)**

**Fee: \$30.00 cash at the door
(Includes exam fee)**

Register: www.BeniciaARC.com

Questions: HamRadioClass@BeniciaARC.com or Art at (707) 746-5858

Conducted by:

Benicia Amateur Radio Club (BARC)

Member W5YI VEC

**Serving the Benicia Fire Department and
the Residents of the City of Benicia**



**Class size is limited. Advance Registration is Required.
No prep or prior study required.**



Prospective Hams should plan on attending a free Get-On-The-Air Class after passing their test, to become familiar with Amateur Radio operations

Reserve Your Space - Become a Ham in One Day!



**Can't make the
upcoming class?
Check our website
periodically for our
next session.**

**Element 4 (Extra class)
You need only pay the
test fee of \$14. We do
not provide study
materials for Element 4.**



HAM RADIO OUTLET

14 STORE BUYING POWER!

ICOM



IC-7600 | All Mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6m Transceiver, gen cov. receiver • Dual DSP 32 bit • Three roofing filters- 3, 6, 15kHz • 5.8 in WQVGA TFT display • Hi-res real time spectrum scope



IC-7200 | HF Transceiver

- 160-10M • 100W • Simple & tough with IF DSP • AGC Loop Management • Digital IF Filter • Digital Twin PBT • Digital Noise Reduction • Digital Noise Blanking • USB Port for PC Control



IC-7100 | All Mode Transceiver

- HF/50/144/430/440 MHz Multi-band, Multi-mode, IF DSP • D-STAR DV Mode (Digital Voice + Data) • Intuitive Touch Screen Interface • Built-in RTTY Functions



ID-5100A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Digital Transceiver

- Analog FM/D-Star DV Mode • SD Card Slot for Voice & Data Storage • 50W Output on VHF/UHF Bands • Integrated GPS Receiver • AM Airband Dualwatch • FM Analog/DV Repeater List Function

ID-51A | VHF/UHF Dual Band Transceiver

- 5/2.5/1.0/0.5/0.1W Output • RX: 0.52-1.71, 88-174, 380-479 MHz** • AM/FM/FM-N/WFM/DV • 1304 Alphanumeric Memory Chls • Integrated GPS • D-STAR Repeater Directory • IPX7 Submersible



KENWOOD



TS-590SG | HF/50MHz Transceiver

- Equipped with 500 Hz/2.7 kHz roofing filter as standard • ALC derived from TS-990S eliminating spike issues • Antenna output function (shared with DRV connector) • CW - morse code decoder function



TM-D710G | 2M/440 Dualband

- V+V/V+U/U+U operation • Built-in GPS • Built-in TNC for APRS & DX-Cluster operation • 50W 2M & UHF • 1,000 memories • Dual receive • Green or amber backlight colors • Latest APRS firmware w/new features • Sky Command II remote functions



TM-V71A | 2M/440 DualBand

- High RF output (50W) • Multiple Scan • Dual receive on same band (VxV, UxU) • Echolink® memory (auto dialer) • Echolink® Sysop mode for node terminal ops • Invertible front panel • Choice of green/amber for LCD panel • 104 code digital code squelch



TM-281A | 2 Mtr Mobile

- 65 Watt • 200 Memories • CTCSS/DCS • Mil-Std specs • Hi-quality audio

TH-F6A | 2M/220/440

- Dual channel receive • .1 - 1300 MHz (cell blocked) RX • FM, AM, SSB • 5W 2M/220/440 TX, FM • 435 Memories • Li-Ion Battery



YAESU
The radio



FT-991 | HF/50MHz/2M/440 Transceiver

- 160 M-440MHz - SSB/CW/FM/C4FM Digital/AM/RTTY/PSK • 100 W (2M/440: 50 Watts) • 3.5" TFT full-color touch panel operation • High speed spectrum scope • Roofing filters: 3kHz & 15kHz • 32-bit high speed floating point IF DSP



FTDX1200 | 100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- Triple Conversion Receiver With 32-bit Floating Point DSP • 40 MHz 1st IF with selectable 3 kHz, 6kHz & 15 kHz Roofing Filters • Optional FFT-1 Supports AF-FFT Scope, RTTY/PSK31 Encode/Decode, CW Decode/Auto Zero-In • Full Color 4.3" TFT Display



FT-450D | A100W HF + 6M Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M • Auto tuner built-in • DSP built-in • 500 memories • DNR, IF Notch, IF Shift



FTM-400DR | 2M/440 Mobile

- Color display-green, blue, orange, purple, gray • GPS/APRS • Packet 1200/9600 bd ready • Spectrum scope • Bluetooth • MicroSD slot • 500 memory per band

FT-60R | 2M/440 5W HT

- Wide receiver coverage • AM air band receive • 1000 memory channels w/alpha labels • Huge LCD display • Rugged die-cast, water resistant case • NOAA severe weather alert with alert scan



5 Ways to Shop!

- RETAIL LOCATIONS - Store hours 10:00AM - 5:30PM - Closed Sunday
- PHONE - Toll-free phone hours 9:30AM - 5:30PM
- FAX - All store locations
- ONLINE - WWW.HAMRADIO.COM
- MAIL - All store locations

ANAHEIM, CA
(800) 854-6046

OAKLAND, CA
(877) 892-1745

SUNNYVALE, CA
(877) 892-1749

PORTLAND, OR
(800) 765-4267

PHOENIX, AZ
(800) 559-7388

WOODBIDGE, VA
(800) 444-4799

PLANO, TX
(877) 455-8750

BURBANK, CA
(877) 892-1748

SAN DIEGO, CA
(877) 520-9623

NEW CASTLE, DE
(800) 644-4476

DENVER, CO
(800) 444-9476

ATLANTA, GA
(800) 444-7927

SALEM, NH
(800) 444-0047

ONLINE STORE
WWW.HAMRADIO.COM

New Store!

Contact HRO for promotion details. Toll-free including Hawaii, Alaska and Canada. Call will be routed to the nearest store. All HRO 800-lines can assist you. If the first line you call is busy, you may call another. AZ, CA, CO, GA, VA residents add sales tax. Prices, specifications and descriptions subject to change without notice.



The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

www.mdarc.org



National Parks ON THE AIR 2016

FIRST CLASS



Affiliated
Club

<https://www.facebook.com/mdarc.org>

W6CX Nets

Monday 7:00 pm Washington High School Net 147.060+

Monday 8:00 pm SATERN Net 147.060+

Thursday 7:30 pm MDARC Club Net 147.060+

Thursday 8:00 pm Amateur Television Net 147.060+

Tuesday 7:30 pm Fat City 10 meter USB/CW Net 28.420 MHz

FM 147.060 MHz + / PL 100Hz - EchoLink: W6CX-R /133896, IRLP: 3057
224.780 MHz - / PL 77Hz 441.325 MHz + / PL 100Hz

D-STAR 145.000 offset plus 2.5 MHz

<https://w6cx.dstargateway.org/> Digital ATV Output 1244.500

Digital ATV Input 1292.500

ATV Inputs: 1289.25 MHz AM; 1270.000 FM pl 192.8 915.0 AM 427.0 AM

ATV Internet Stream: <http://www.w6cxatv.net/live>

Contra Costa County Emergency Communications Nets

Every Thursday

<http://www.coco-races.org/meetings/nets/>

6:35 pm HF Countywide 3.893 MHz LSB

6:45 pm West County 145.110-- (82.5 PL)

7:00 pm Central County 145.680 Simplex

7:00 pm East County 146.535 Simplex

7:00 pm South County 146.355+ (77.0 PL)

7:20 pm Countywide 145.490-- (107.2 PL)

or 147.735+ (107.2 PL)

or 145.410 -- (107.2 PL)

Concord Auxiliary Radio Emergency Service (CARES)

Wednesday 8:00pm 147.405 Simplex

January and February 2016 Club Calendar

Friday January 15, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting - PARK IN NORTH PARKING LOT Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette
Monday February 1, 2015	7:30pm	MDARC Board Meeting Black Bear Restaurant, 700 Bancroft Avenue, Walnut Creek
Saturday February 6, 2016	8:00 am	MDARC Technical Committee Environmental Center, 2581 Harbor Street, Pittsburg
Friday February 19, 2016	7:30pm	MDARC General Meeting Our Saviors Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette